

## Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 MC-02 ACDA-07 COME-00 EB-07

PRS-01 /064 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:JPLYLE:CEJ

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DOD/DSAA - COL. PERKINS

NEA/RA - COL. HOBBS

ACDA - COL. FLUHR

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P 012303Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 217161

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, TC

SUBJECT: M-16A SALE TO UAE GOVERNMENT

REF: ABU DHABI 2337

1. WE ARE PLEASED THAT NEGOTIATIONS ON M-16A1 TO UAE  
DEFENSE FORCE PROGRESSING SATISFACTORILY. SINCE POLICY  
DECISION ALREADY MADE TO SELL UP TO 30,000 M-16S TO  
UAEDF AND BY OUR CALCULATION VALUE OF SALE WILL BE BELOW  
DOLS 7 MILLION THEREBY NOT REQUIRING PRIOR 30-DAY  
CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW, IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO MEET MID  
TO LATE NOVEMBER DATE GENERAL KHALIDI DESIRES FOR INITIAL  
SHIPMENT OF 5,000 RIFLES. COLT REPS, IF THEY ARE STILL  
IN UAE, SHOULD BE TOLD THAT COLT SHOULD APPLY PROMPTLY  
FOR LICENSE IN NORMAL FASHION.

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2. WITH REGARD TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING MENTIONED BY COLT REPS IN THEIR DISCUSSIONS WITH GENERAL KHALDI, NO ONE IN STATE OR DOD IS AWARE OF PROCEDURE OUTLINED REFTTEL. WE CONTINUE TO FEEL THAT BEST WAY FOR UAEDF TO ASSURE THAT RIFLES WILL MEET SAME STANDARDS AS THOSE PROCURED BY USG IS TO REQUEST THAT THEY BE INSPECTED BY DEFENSE CONTRACTING ADMINISTRATION SERVICE. IF UAEG AGREES, THEY SHOULD INSTRUCT THEIR EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON

TO REQUEST THIS SERVICE. A FORM IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PURPOSE IN NEA/ARP. WE WILL ALSO REQUIRE FOUR COPIES OF THE UAEG'S CONTRACT WITH COLT FOR M-16S WHICH UAEG WISHES INSPECTED. THIS SERVICE IS NOT PROVIDED UNDER STANDARD FMS PROCEDURES. RATHER, AFTER INSPECTION IS COMPLETED, UAE EMBASSY WILL BE BILLED FOR DOLS 16.50 PER HOUR OF ACTUAL TIME EXPENDED ON INSPECTION.

3. WE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO SALE OF UP TO 500 M-203 GRENADE LAUNCHERS TO UAEG AND AGREE WITH EMBASSY THAT THIS IS BEST HANDLED AS A SEPARATE CASE. OUR VERY PRELIMINARY INQUIRIES INTO PRICE AND AVAILABILITY UNDER FMS YIELD A PRICE ESTIMATE FROM DOLS 270-290 AND AVAILABILITY OF 12 TO 24 MONTHS. SINCE M-203S ARE MANUFACTURED BY COLT, IT WOULD APPEAR TO BE MORE PRACTICAL TO PROCURE THEM DIRECTLY FROM THE MANUFACTURER.

4. AMMUNITION FOR GRENADE LAUNCHERS, HOWEVER, MUST BE PROCURED UNDER FMS. 30 ROUNDS PER WEAPON APPROXIMATES A US BASIC LOAD. WE WOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO PROVIDE REASONABLE QUANTITIES OF AMMUNITION FROM US STOCK UNDER FMS AT CA. DOLS 3.50 PER ROUND. ROBINSON

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